

# The Farmington Times

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THOS. H. STAM, President. L. K. PEERS, Vice President. PHILIP S. COLE, Sec'y and Treas.  
THIRD J. FISHER, Editor and Business Manager.

FARMINGTON, MO., JUNE 8, 1906.

Dave Ball cuts with a keen blade. When Governor Francis finished the speech in which he endorsed Bryan for President in 1908, Mr. Ball was recognized by the chair and the convention went wild again at his first words: "With Grover Cleveland and Dave Francis and that crowd standing up for Bryan, we will carry every State."

There was a State election in Oregon last Monday. Oregon is a hide-bound Republican State. It gave Roosevelt a majority two years ago of 40,000, but it looks as if there is one Democrat out there that the Republicans can't know under. The returns indicate the election of Governor Chamberlain for a third term by a small plurality.

We don't know what effect it may have on the party in St. Louis, though it ought to be wholesome, but in the balance of the State Democrats will applaud the dragging which the State Democratic Convention gave Butlerism. The Butlerists have always been political freebooters, fighting under whatever banner in local affairs promised them the greatest graft.

The State Democratic Convention at Jefferson City this week did its work well. It adopted a splendid platform built along straight democratic principles and policies, standing squarely out for enforcement of the laws without regard for whom they affect and endorsing that greatest exponent of Democratic principles, William J. Bryan, for President in 1908. The nominations of Howard A. Gass of Jefferson City for State Superintendent and of Rube Oglesby of Warrensburg for Railroad and Warehouse Commissioner are good ones, and they will be triumphantly elected.

At the primary election in Ste. Genevieve county last Saturday John T. Burks carried the county by about 160 votes over Senator Bradley. Mr. Burks' friends had been claiming the county by from 300 to 500 majority. Mr. Bradley is still nearly 600 votes in the lead and his nomination is practically assured. Primaries are yet to be held in Jefferson and Perry counties, and they come off on the 18th of August. Hon. M. R. Smith received the full vote polled for the nomination for Congress.

Former Governor David R. Francis made a speech at the State Democratic Convention last Tuesday in which he declared for William J. Bryan for President in 1908, and we are told the convention was swept off its feet by the declaration. That was significant—not the enthusiasm of the convention, but the declaration of Gov. Francis. Mr. Bryan has not changed his principles and policies since 1896; they were straight Democratic goods then and they are straight Democratic goods now. The significance of Gov. Francis' open declaration for Bryan at this time is that those Democrats who went off after strange gods in 1896 and 1900 or gave a reluctant support to Mr. Bryan, because of the dominant issue set forth in the Democratic platforms of those years, are beginning to recognize their mistake and are getting back to safe Democratic bearings. Yes, Mr. Bryan is the greatest and most popular exponent of Democratic principles of this generation and the logical national standard bearer of the party for 1908. Gov. Francis is wise to see the drift of public sentiment and feeling, and it is also clear that prominent Democrats of the Eastern States are beginning to see the light and recognize the fact.

## QUESTIONS OF VERACITY.

At the crucial moment of the progress of the railroad rate bill President Roosevelt deserted his Democratic allies, whose aid he had solicited through former Senator Chandler, and whom he had given to understand that he would not recede one jot or tittle from his avowed position in favor of a limited court review of the rates fixed by the Interstate Commerce Commission, advocated by Senators Bailey and Tillman. In calling attention to the President's treachery in surrendering to the broad or unlimited court review supporters without notice or warning of any kind to his Democratic allies, Mr. Tillman told how the President had assured Mr. Chandler, whom he had selected as a mediator between himself and the Democratic leaders in the rate fight, that "he had been troubled by the advocacy of an unlimited court review by some of the lawyers of the Senate, naming Senators Knox, Spooner and Foraker, as trying to injure or defeat the bill by ingenious constitutional arguments, but that he had come to a complete disagreement with them."

This statement naturally created a sensation in the Senate, and Senator Lodge to relieve the strained situation phoned over to the White House, apprising the President of what had been said, and then arose confidently in the chamber, and speaking for the President, denounced the statement of Mr. Tillman as a "deliberate and mischievous falsehood," in the strenuous and chapeauistic language of the President. This created a question of veracity: either Mr. Tillman, Mr. Chandler or Mr. Roosevelt had prevaricated. Mr. Tillman was too wary to be caught in a trap of that sort—to make a statement that he could not substantiate with indisputable evidence. He had Mr. Chandler's written confirmation of the latter's interview with the President, and Mr. Chandler, who stands as high as any man in Washington when it comes to a question of veracity, adhered to his statement like a man. The President's later statement, which avoided the strenuous language he had phoned to Senator Lodge, was a weak attempt to extricate himself from an embarrassing position, to exonerate himself from the charge of treachery to the Democrats whom he had invited to his help, and to mystify his surrender to the unlimited court review lawyers, whom he had said were "trying to defeat the bill by ingenious constitutional arguments." The confirmation of former Senator Chandler of what the President had told him and the sophistry of the President's statement, left Mr. Roosevelt in a hole from which his apologists have vainly tried to extricate him. The President's strenuous denial is universally discredited.

This incident brings up other questions of veracity which the President's intemperate language has raised. During the last Presidential campaign Judge Parker declared that the corporations were furnishing campaign funds to the Republican committee. With his usual rashness Mr. Roosevelt denounced the charge as a "monstrous falsehood," declaring that "if it were true then Mr. Cortelyou and myself are two of the most infamous men in the country." The exposures of the life insurance investigations show how true was Judge Parker's charge and how rash Mr. Roosevelt's spectacular denial was. The President and his party are the beneficiaries of the funds of widows and orphans stolen by the insurance companies' officers and turned over to the Re-

publican campaign fund. Chairman Cortelyou certainly knew of these contributions if Mr. Roosevelt did not. Has he, in the light of indisputable facts, revised his opinion of himself and Mr. Cortelyou, that they "are two of the most infamous men in the country?" On another occasion Henry M. Whitney of Massachusetts said that the President declared to him and some other members of a committee that he favored Canadian reciprocity. With characteristic emotional strenuousness the President retorted that Mr. Whitney had "deliberately misrepresented him." But Andrew G. Webster of Boston and J. H. Hall of Cambridge, who were members of the committee, declared that their memory of what the President said was in accord with Mr. Whitney's statement. The preponderance of evidence here is against the man whose use of the epithet "malicious and deliberate falsehood" is altogether too common.

There are other instances, but surely these are enough to warrant public men who have interviews with President Roosevelt on important issues to have some reputable witnesses present before undertaking to make public any position he may assume. He is so emotional and changes his position so often that they are liable to be called "deliberate and mischievous falsifiers." And of course no one cares to "bandy words with the President."

Enthusiasm has broken out in the East for Bryan and everybody is talking of him for President in 1908. Mr. Bryan is expected to arrive in New York about the 1st of August from his trip around the world, and plans are being made to give him a rousing ovation and welcome. This feeling for Bryan has long been uppermost in the minds of the great masses of the party, and the endorsement given him at the Missouri State Democratic Convention last Tuesday and the speech of Governor Francis, who was aligned with the opposition to him in 1896, has aroused the budding sentiment in the East to open enthusiasm.

Last Monday, the ninety-eighth anniversary of the birthday of Jefferson Davis, was celebrated in Texas as a legal holiday. The Texas Legislature at its last session by unanimous vote passed a law making the birthday of Jefferson Davis a legal holiday. It is a custom of the Federal Government for Federal offices to be closed on legal State holidays within the State where they apply; hence this was the first time in the history of the country when Jefferson Davis' memory was honored by officials of the Federal Government.

## An Impertinent Suggestion.

The Jones County (Iowa) Times is pursuing a course that will result in its becoming very much disliked in the camp of the "stand-patters." Referring to the proposition to remove the tariff on structural steel, lumber and other building material imported for the rebuilding of San Francisco, in order that the people of the stricken city may secure such material at the lowest possible cost, the Times says:

"If the claim made by our Republican brethren is true, that the foreigner pays the tax, why not let the tariff on building material remain and donate the amount of the tax paid by the foreigners on such material to the sufferers of the stricken city?"

The Times has punctured the whole protective tariff theory by one suggestion. If the foreigner pays the tax the removal of the tax will not help San Francisco. If the foreigner does not pay it, then the tax is an unjust burden upon the people. The Commoner ventures to predict that not one of the "stand-patter" organs in Iowa will dare oppose the humane suggestion made by the Jones County Times. They will have to content themselves with making faces at the Times and calling it the usual names.—The Commoner.

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The Missourian wants the people of New Madrid to begin at once in their arrangements for the entertainment of the Drummers in 1907.

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